the summer heat, these rooms have a height which seems ab- 342
normal to European or American eyes, about ten or twelve
feet, and the rooms of the first storey are additionally
raised on a platform of earth one or two feet above the
level of the courtyard. The windows facing inward and those
of the second storey are larger, and may boast glass in
wooden frames brought from Erbil. The ceilings consist
of bundles of poles and twigs, and are mostly left un-
finished, although a few have been plastered and pasted
with newspaper. The floors and the roof are of mud mixed
with chaff laid down in a number of layers. Before [356]
cleaning a room, it is customary to wet the floor down by
copious sprinkling, and sweeping usually carries off a
little of the floor. The roofs are equipped with long, [413]
smooth, cylindrical stones, four to six inches in diameter
and about a foot in length, used to roll the mud of the
roof after rain or snow. With a few exceptions, most of
these homes are of two storeys, and, although there is
considerable variation in the assignment of rooms, of
which six or seven constitute a minimum number, and in
the plan itself, the adherence to a courtyard design is
marked. In addition, there is an obvious attempt to orient
the house and its windows so that household life, specifi-
cally that of the women, is hidden from passers-by on the
street and people of neighboring buildings. Lacking a [351]
"true" courtyard shielded on all sides, the deficiencies
are amended with high, impenetrable fences of interlaced
twigs and foliage. In the absence of archaeological [174]

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Fig. 46. Left: [illegible] (E. 2372) used in [illegible] (Cf. p. 60). Centre: spindle (E. 2340). The yarn wool is wound round the woman's left arm. Right: the wooden comb (E. 2339), [illegible] material is wound and boiled to get glucose. (Cf. fig. 45).

DOMESTIC INDUSTRY

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A42
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[illegible]

Domestic industry is only found within one of the four environments, the humble village milieu. There it comprises spinning, weaving and the production of clay vessels.

Spinning was the occupation of the humble peasant women when not engaged on other domestic tasks. In Tawalla the women even spun during their long walk to and from the orchards.

Spinning is done on a spindle, *dîli*, (E. 2340) a round stick about 0.30 m. in length, the upper end of which carries the disc-shaped spindle-whorl of about 0.050 m. in diameter. The raw wool from sheep and goats is wound round the woman's left underarm. The spun thread, which is not dyed but used in its natural colours, that is to say black-brown, yellow-brown or white, the women plait into harvest ropes. While making the rope the woman sits on the ground with outstretched legs, the big toe of the one foot being used to secure the one end of the rope.

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Large quantities of yarn are supplied to the weavers, female and male, in the village, the coarser quality undyed (yarn sample, E. 2332) intended for smooth-woven rugs,[illegible] the finer quality undyed white or dyed brown or grey (yarn sample, E. 2347) intended for material for men's clothes. The

[illegible]